

**Environmental Management (EM)
Nevada Program Activities
Monthly Report to the
Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board (NSSAB)
October 2020**

In September 2020, the EM Nevada Program continued to operate in Phase 2 of its Operations Remobilization Plan with a continued focus on the deliberate and gradual approach to the execution of Phase 2 protocols. The Remobilization Plan aligns with the President's *Reopening America Again* and U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) *Return to the Federal Workplace Framework* plans in full coordination with site partners at the National Nuclear Security Administration/Nevada Field Office (NNSA/NFO). The EM Nevada Program closely monitors the data reported by the State of Nevada, the Southern Nevada Health District, and other public health agencies with employee health and safety remaining the top priority. Limited travel has commenced under Phase 2, primarily for Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program (RWAP) facility evaluations and oversight, and is being considered and approved on a case-by-case basis. EM Nevada crews are currently performing field work, including at sites on the Tonopah Test Range (TTR). The EM Nevada Program continues to meet its commitments to stakeholders through virtual and/or in-person meetings (i.e., NSSAB, Low-Level Waste (LLW) Stakeholders Forum, State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), etc.) In an abundance of caution, EM Nevada Program has opted to transition all Program-hosted public events to a virtual format through at least December 31, 2020.

PLEASE NOTE: The *Nevada National Security Site Environmental Report (NNSER) for 2019* is now available online at <http://www.nnss.gov/pages/resources/library/NNSER.html>. The report is written to inform the public, regulators, employees, and other stakeholders of NNSS environmental performance for calendar year 2019. The annual NNSER contains information on all programs and activities conducted on and around the NNSS, at the North Las Vegas Facility, and at the Remote Sensing Laboratory-Nellis to protect the environment and the public. Activities reported include environmental management system performance and implementation; compliance with all environmental permits; monitoring of radionuclides in air, groundwater, and biota; direct radiation monitoring; calculation of the public's radiation dose from activities conducted on the NNSS; results of Clean Air Act, Safe Drinking Water Act and Clean Water Act monitoring; progress towards remediation of all contaminated sites; environmental monitoring of waste management sites; protection of cultural resources; and monitoring of protected species and habitats on the NNSS.

External Affairs

- NSSAB:
 - Hosted NSSAB full board meeting via virtual meeting – September 23, 2020
- Events/Stakeholders Meetings:
 - Conducted a panel discussion during the RadWaste Summit 2020 (www.radwastesummit.com) via virtual meeting on *Legacy Cleanup Activities at the Nevada National Security Site* with NDEP and Navarro contractor representatives (NSSAB members attended) – September 11, 2020
 - Hosted EM Consolidated Business Center (EMCBC) Executive Director for EM Nevada Program visit and NNSS observation – week of September 14, 2020

- Attended EM National Cleanup Workshop via virtual meeting (NSSAB leadership attended). The workshop in its entirety available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1_u9LbMSIM – September 16, 2020
- Hosted EM Nevada Program Intergovernmental Meeting via virtual meeting (NSSAB leadership attended) – September 23, 2020
- Provided the Waste Coordination Leadership Group Update presentation to NDEP with EM HQ via virtual meeting – September 30, 2020
- NNSS tours:
 - Per NNSA/NFO, all site tours will be suspended through December 31, 2020
- Planned activities for October 2020:
 - Host DOE Undersecretary for Science Paul M. Dabbar (S-4) for NNSS site observation, EM Nevada Program briefing, and TTR Transfer milestone commemoration – October 20, 2020
 - Participate in EM Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) National Chairs Virtual Meeting – October 19-20, 2020
 - Conduct an orientation virtually for the NSSAB – October 27, 2020
 - Publish social media and follow-up article on the EMCBC Executive Director visit to EM Nevada Program offices and observation of the NNSS
 - Publish social media and follow-up article on the panel discussion conducted during the RadWaste Summit 2020 on *Legacy Cleanup Activities at the NNSS*

Waste Disposal and Transportation

- Update from previous reports – Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12), Oak Ridge, TN generator: The EM Nevada Program continues to coordinate with DOE Headquarters and the NNSA/NFO on items related to the Y-12 waste event from July 2019. RWAP has rescheduled a facility evaluation from October 2020 to November 2020. Y-12 cannot ship waste to the NNSS until it satisfactorily undergoes a RWAP facility evaluation. (please see April – May 2019, July 2019 – April 2020, August – September 2020 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous reports – Erwin, TN generator: In February 2020, a facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. In May 2020, RWAP accepted the generator's corrective action plan (CAP). In September 2020, RWAP reviewed objective evidence submitted by the generator to close the CAP. (please see March 2020–June 2020 NSSAB Monthly Reports for more information)
- Update from previous report – Oak Ridge, TN generator #2: In August 2020, a tabletop facility evaluation resulted in one Finding. RWAP submitted the final report to the generator in September 2020. The generator has 30 days after receiving the report to respond to RWAP with a CAP addressing the Finding. (please see September 2020 NSSAB Monthly Report for more information)
- In September 2020, the RWAP conducted one facility evaluation:
 - Aberdeen, MD generator: The tabletop facility evaluation resulted in no Findings.
 - Los Alamos, NM generator: The facility evaluation was cancelled.
- In October 2020, the RWAP will conduct one facility evaluation.
- In October 2020, approximately 39,925 cubic feet of LLW, mixed LLW, and classified waste is forecasted for disposal at the NNSS.

Underground Test Area (UGTA)

Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 97, Yucca Flat/Climax Mine

Comments on the Closure Report were addressed and the revised document was submitted to NDEP in September 2020.

CAU 101/102, Pahute Mesa

The Pahute Mesa Hydrologic Data Document completed internal review and will be submitted to NDEP in October 2020.

Industrial Sites

CAU 577, Area 5 Chromium Contaminated Waste Disposal Cells

CAU 577 comprises five Corrective Action Sites (CASs) located at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Complex. In July 2020, a revised draft Corrective Action Decision Document/Corrective Action Plan (CADD/CAP) was submitted to NDEP and comments were received. Comment resolution and work on the final CADD/CAP continued in September 2020.

Post-Closure Monitoring

Non-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The Non-RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CASs where post-closure inspections and maintenance performed in accordance with closure requirements. The annual inspections began in August 2020 and will continue throughout the calendar year.

RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites

The RCRA Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include six CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance performed in accordance with the RCRA Permit and closure requirements. Irrigation and monthly monitoring were concluded at CAU 111 revegetation test plots in September 2020. Quarterly inspections of RCRA CAUs were also conducted in September 2020.

TTR Sites

The TTR Post-Closure Monitoring Sites include CAUs where post-closure inspections, monitoring, and maintenance are performed on the TTR. In September 2020, stewardship responsibility for the TTR sites transitioned to the DOE Office of Legacy Management.

CAU 99, Rainier Mesa/Shoshone Mountain

Groundwater sampling continued in September 2020 and is anticipated to be complete in October 2020.